

American Diploma Project State Plan

This item reviews recent developments and outlines next steps in Kentucky's participation in the American Diploma Project. It asks for the Council's approval of a state plan based on the recommendations of the ADP Policy Panel.

Action: The staff recommends that the Council approve the state plan drawn from the recommendations made by the American Diploma Project Policy Panel at the March meeting of the P-16 Council and endorsed by the P-16 Council at its June 2003 meeting.

At its June meeting, the P-16 Council endorsed the state plan to implement recommendations made by the American Diploma Project Policy Panel, which met in March to review research conducted during the first year of the ADP ([see attached](#)). The staffs from the Kentucky Department of Education and the Council on Postsecondary Education drew up the plan in consultation with other P-16 agencies and representatives of local P-16 councils. It identifies lead agencies to assume the primary role in implementing each element of the plan. At the same meeting, Sheila Byrd, executive director of the ADP, presented a draft of the benchmarks of college and workplace readiness in English language arts and mathematics for use as high school exit standards. These benchmarks are being formulated on the basis of research conducted both in the project's five partner states and in consultation with employers and content specialists across the nation. The partner states are Indiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, and Texas.

At its June meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education reviewed the ADP Policy Panel's recommendations. Given the effect that adoption of this plan would have on the standards of the KDE's Program of Studies and Core Content for Assessment, the board reserved its formal approval pending review of the final version of the ADP benchmarks.

Approval of the plan by the Council will set the stage for the postsecondary institutions and adult education providers to implement those parts of the plan for which they are responsible.

In June, the ADP convened representatives of its partner states in Washington, D.C., to share state plans. Governor Paul E. Patton, William Brundage (commissioner of the Office for the New Economy), James Ramsey (president of the University of Louisville), and Tom Layzell joined Jim Applegate and Dianne Bazell (CPE), Michael Miller and Linda Pittenger (KDE), Michael Fleitz (Kentucky Council of Carpenters), and Reecie Stagnolia (CPE and Adult Education and Literacy) to discuss Kentucky's plan and future directions and challenges.

The benchmarks continue to be circulated nationally, and a final version, with teaching and application examples, will be published this fall.